

## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

21 September 2004

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: September 17, 2004

### Analysis

#### HAB Forecast:

No harmful algal blooms have been found along Florida's coast. Recent tropical storms have caused sediment resuspension and non-harmful blooms, which may cause discolored water.

#### Analysis:

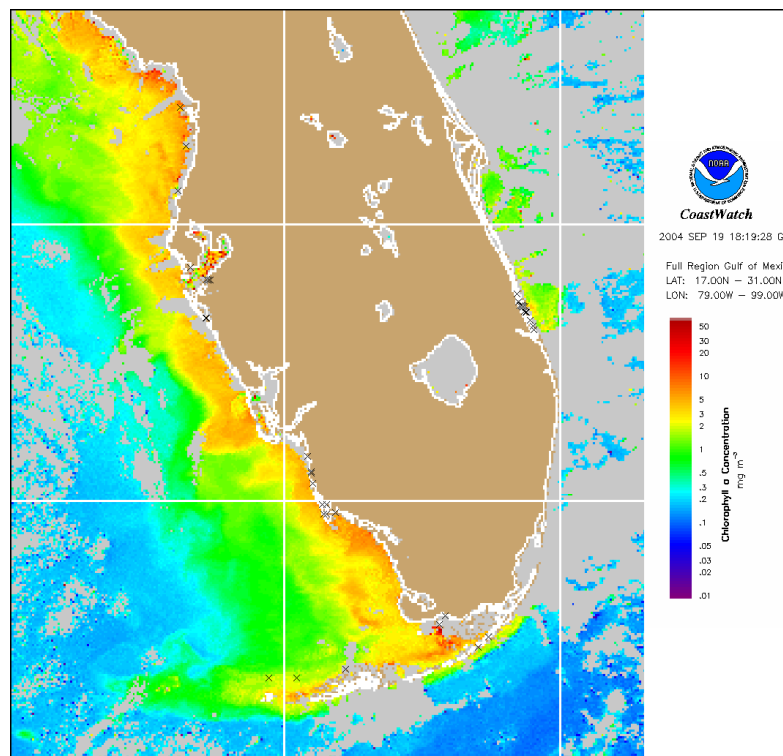
Samples taken last week from southwest Florida near Sarasota, Fort Meyers, and Naples showed no *Karenia brevis*. Imagery shows elevated chlorophyll along much of Florida's west coast: concentrations over 4 micrograms per liter off Cape San Blas and Cedar Key; over 5 micrograms per liter near Clearwater, Sarasota, Naples; and over 7 micrograms per liter Everglades City.

Winds have favored upwelling in southwest Florida for several days and are forecasted to continue for the rest of the week and through the weekend. These conditions are conducive to HAB formation, so this area should be monitored. Sampling here is recommended. Conditions in the panhandle don't favor HAB formation.

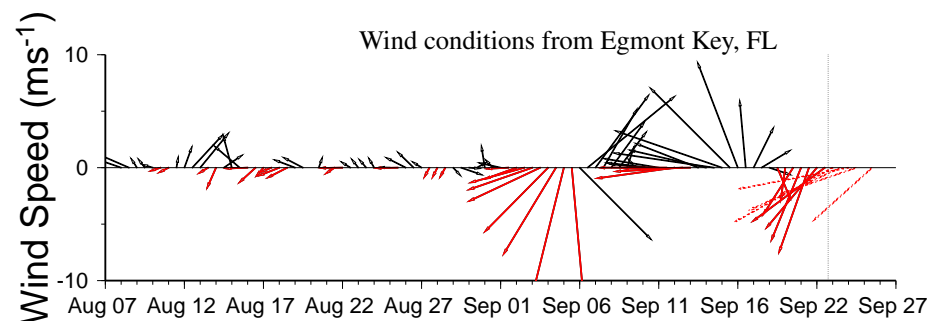
Bronder, Stolz

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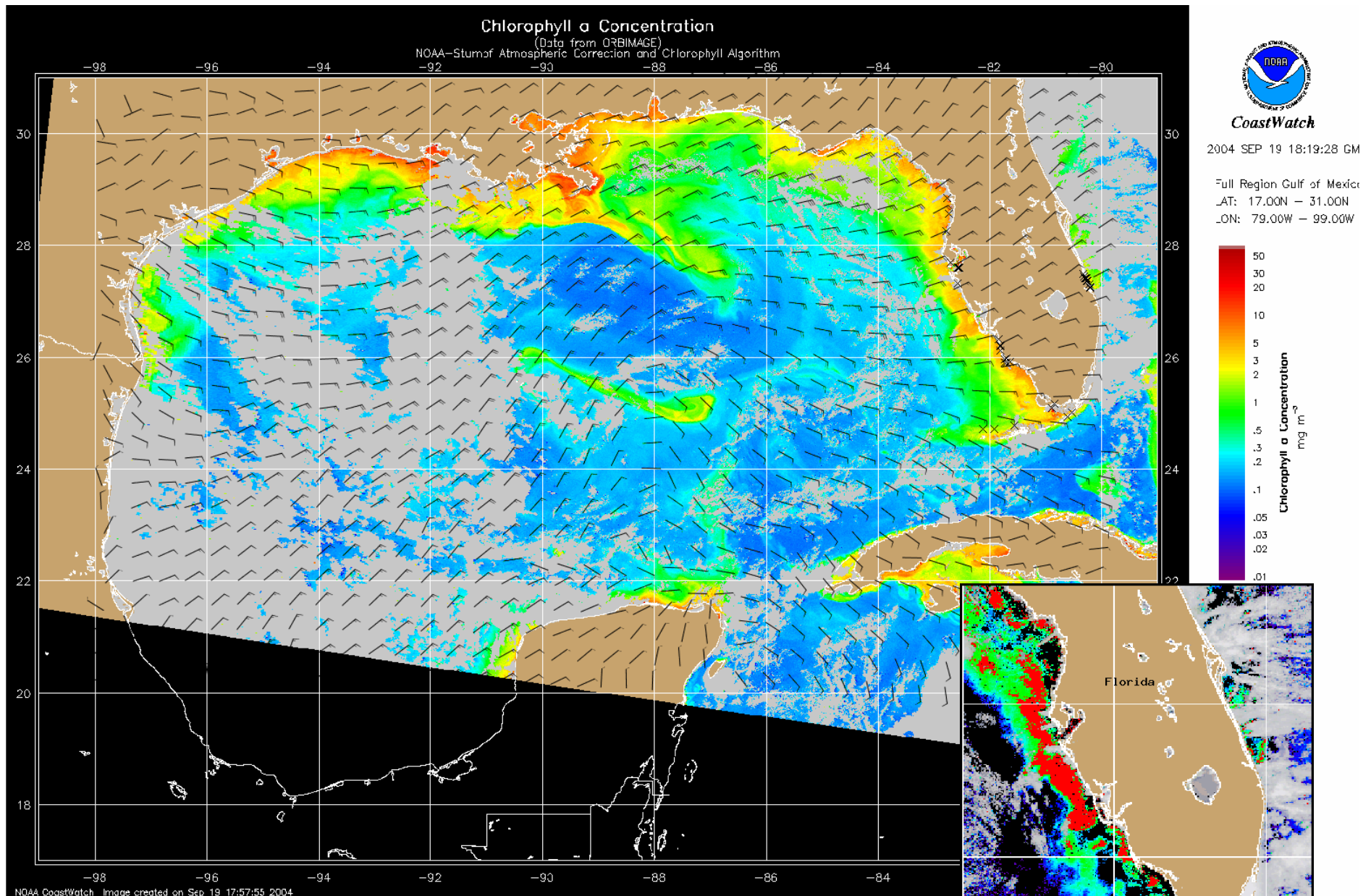


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 12, 2004 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

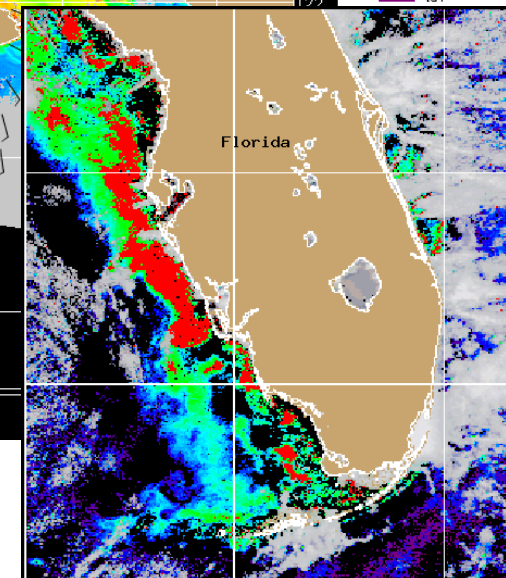


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Southwest Florida: Winds have been northeasterly for the past few days, and are forecasted to shift to easterly then northeasterly over the next couple of days. The NWS Marine Forecast calls for easterly winds until Thursday, then northeasterly winds over the weekend. Florida Panhandle: Winds have been northeasterly for the past few days, and are forecasted to become easterly for the next couple of days.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for September 22, 2004 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 12, 2004 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)

